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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/721,823

11/26/2003

Tiebin Zhao

45008

4780

1609

7590

01/13/2005

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EXAMINER

VU, HIEN D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/721,823

Applicant(s)

ZHAO ET AL.

Examiner

Hien D. Vu

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

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1. Figs. 1, 3 and 4 are objected to because the cross sections of ribs 12-16 in figs. 3-4 are not showed the same structure as the ribs showed in fig. 1.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meyer et al (103) in view of Morita et al.

Meyer, figs. 1-3 show a body 12 with first and second end sections, a transition shoulder 24 and a mid section 40 disposed between the first and second sections, the mid section being radically larger than the first and second end sections, an outer surface 52 of the mid-section and a plurality of radial indicator ribs 54-56 extending from the outer surface of the mid section laterally offset from a face wall of the transition shoulder. Meyer does not show the ribs having an abutment surface to abut a portion of a mating connector. Morita, fig. 5 shows a body 1 having a plurality of ribs 11-12 including an abutment surface and extended from an outer surface of the body to abut a portion of a mating connector 21. It would have been obvious to one with skill in the art to modify the connector of Meyer by forming the ribs with an abutment surface for abutting with a portion of a mating connector as taught by Morita in order to ensure properly mating between the connectors.

As to claim 2, the abutment surfaces of the radial indicator ribs forming a step with the face wall.

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As to claim 3, each of the ribs extending outwardly from the mid section of the body beyond all portions of the body.

As to claim 4, the ribs are substantially perpendicular to the outer surface.

As to claim 5, the body is a dielectric material and the mid-section having an outer conductive jacket.

As to claim 6, the ribs are formed as a unitary one-piece member.

As to claim 7, the mating connector is a high voltage cable connector.

As to claims 8, a ground connection disposed on the mid-section is old and well known in the art and it would have been obvious to provide grounding on the mid-section of the connector in order to ground the connector.

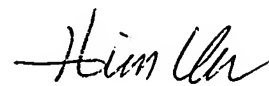
As to claims 9-23 and 24-26, the recitations of these claims are similar to claims 1-8, therefore they are rejected under the similar rationale.

4. McCormick et al, Wasserlin, Williams, Hall and Sappinton are cited for disclosure of male and female connectors having rib means.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Hein D. Vu at telephone number (571) 272-2016.

Vu/ds

12/17/04



HIEN VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER